



PRESENTED
12 JUN 1941

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE
YORKSHIRE
PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR
1940

PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL MEETING,
10th MARCH, 1941.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

1941.

Issued 31st MAY, 1941.

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FORM
OF A
BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

Every person desirous of bequeathing to the Society any sum of Money, Specimens, Books, Instruments, or other Property, is requested to make use of the following form:—

*I give and bequeath to the Trustees, for the time being, of the Society established at York, called “**The Yorkshire Philosophical Society,**” for the use of the said Society, the sum of _____ to be paid out of such part of my personal estate as I may legally charge therewith. [Or here enumerate the effects or property intended to be bequeathed.] And I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer of the said Society, for the time being, shall be an effectual discharge to my Executors for the said legacy.*

The Yorkshire Philosophical Society.

(Founded 1822.)

Patroness :

HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY.

Trustees :

THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF FEVERSHAM.

GEORGE A. AUDEN, M.D., M.A., Ph.D., F.R.C.P.

SIR FRANCIS W. TERRY, J.P. SIR ROGER LUMLEY, B.A.

J. TRIFFITT.

GEOFFREY THOMPSON, M.A.

COL. INNES N. WARE, O.B.E.

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THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF FEVERSHAM.

Vice-Presidents :

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JOHN A. COOPER.

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F.S.A.

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J. HERVEY RUTHERFORD,

J. A. KNOWLES, F.S.A.

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COUN. H. E. HARROWELL, J.P.

F.S.A.

A. W. PING, M.A.

Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary :

COL. INNES N. WARE, O.B.E., T.D.

Keeper of the Museum :

R. WAGSTAFFE, M.B.O.U.

Committees :

General Purposes and Finance Committee :

ALD. W. H. BIRCH.
J. L. BROCKBANK.
W. HARVEY BROOK.
JOHN A. COOPER.
T. GOULTON LEONARD.
SIDNEY MELMORE.

ALD. J. B. MORRELL.
REV. A. RAINE.
SIR FRANCIS W. TERRY.
GEOFFREY THOMPSON.
J. TRIFFITT.
COL. INNES N. WARE.

Garden Committee :

C. ALLEN.
E. BAKER.
G. S. HUGHES.

J. A. KNOWLES.
A. W. PING.
K. E. T. WILKINSON.

Museum Committee :

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W. HARVEY BROOK.
MISS KITSON CLARK.
SIDNEY MELMORE.

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GEOFFREY THOMPSON.
J. F. E. GELSON WALKER.
NEVILLE VEAR.

The President, the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and the Keeper are *ex-officio* members of all Committees.

York and District Field Naturalists' Section.

President :

STANLEY ALLEN.

Vice Presidents :

S. MELMORE, B.Sc.
W. G. BRAMLEY.

E. W. TAYLOR.
C. F. SWEETMAN.

Hon. Secretary :

A. W. PING, M.A., F.R.Met.S.
St. Olave's, Clifton, York.

Hon. Treasurer :

A. COLLEY,
The Yorkshire Museum, York.

The Annual Subscription to the Section is five shillings. Membership is open to both members and non-members of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. Members of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society are cordially invited to the lectures.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE
YORKSHIRE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

10th MARCH, 1941.

DESPITE the many difficulties caused by the war, the Society has maintained its work, though on a reduced scale. The Council have been very gratified by the interest which has been taken in the Museum, particularly by the Members of H.M. Forces, to whom the Museum and Gardens are open free of charge.

The decision to open the Museum Gardens on Sunday afternoons has met with a much appreciated response, for apart from Members of H.M. Forces, the number of persons admitted from March 3rd to December 29th on Sunday afternoons was 1,195.

During the year a Sub-Committee was appointed to consider the safeguarding of the most important objects in the Society's Collections, and to give effect to such measures as the Committee might deem necessary for their protection against war damage. Many specimens in the Museum and Hospitium, also a number of valuable books and MSS. from the Library, have been packed and stored. Important specimens which it has not been possible to move have been protected *in situ*. Consideration has been given to the fire appliances in and around the Museum and Hospitium, and further equipment provided to make these more effective. Arrangements have also been made for the supervision of the buildings at all times in case of fires caused by enemy action. These precautions have involved an expenditure during 1940 of £91 14s. 6d., but this was necessary in view of the importance of the work in hand. The Sub-Committee have given much valuable time and consideration to the difficult task they have undertaken, and the Council wish to record their appreciation of these services.

The removal or storing of many of the specimens has curtailed the activities of the Museum during the year. In

spite of this, considerable interest has been taken in the remaining Collections.

The Collections or Specimens have been studied by visitors from various Universities and Museums, and many have made use of the Library. During the year 1,060 children from Schools in the City attended the Museum for study and instruction.

The Society has gratefully received many valuable and interesting donations to the Museum, and has acquired the unique collection of negatives and lantern slides of the late Mr. William Watson. It is hoped that, in spite of present difficulties, the friends of the Society will keep in mind our needs for coins, tokens, medals or bank notes, especially those of local origin. We are also anxious to build up a collection of naval and military medals and decorations.

Lectures alternated with documentary Films were delivered or shown in the Tempest Anderson Hall during 1940.

The Council desire to thank the Honorary Curators for their services during the year.

The Council have to record the impending retirement of Dr. Walter E. Collinge who has been Keeper of the Yorkshire Museum since March, 1921. Dr. Collinge came to us from the University Museum, St. Andrews, with an experience gained in a successful scientific career, which knowledge he has placed to the full to the benefit of the Museum. He found a serious task awaiting him, and successfully reorganized the Museum and its collections.

Many important additions, selected with care and discrimination, have been made to the Museums during Dr. Collinge's Keepership, and his opinion and advice have always been willingly given on the numerous finds, local and otherwise, which have been brought to his notice.

Dr. Collinge has written extensively on many subjects relating to natural history, and his exceptional knowledge of wild birds and their feeding habits has been much valued as is evident by the fact that he is a member of the Wild Birds Advisory Committee (Scotland) and an honorary or life member of many societies both at home and abroad.

The Council and Members are indebted to Dr. Collinge for his work at the Museum, and hope that he will have many years of happiness during his retirement.

In succession to Dr. Collinge the Council have appointed Mr. Reginald Wagstaffe who has had a very wide experience in Museum work, having held appointments in the Natural History Department of the University Museum, Cincinnati, The Liverpool Museum, The Leicester Museum and Art Gallery, and since 1934 the Curatorship of the Stockport Municipal Museums.

At the Yorkshire Museum, with its wealth of material, Mr. Wagstaffe will have ample scope for the scientific knowledge and administrative ability which he possesses, and the Council feel sure that Mr. Wagstaffe will receive the welcome and support of all the Members when he takes up his duties on 1st April next.

FINANCE.—The recommendations made to the Council by the Finance Sub-Committee were put into effect, and resulted in a credit balance on ordinary income and expenditure of £430 12s., as against a debit balance in 1939 of £88 18s. 3d. After paying £85 11s. 6d. to the Abbey Fund and various other items, including £169 13s. 2d. for a new Boiler in the Museum, there remained a balance of £91 2s. 4d. which reduces the debit balance of £308 8s. brought forward from 1939 to £217 5s. 8d.

It is not proposed to print the Accounts this year as a measure of economy. The Accounts will be posted in the Hall, and any member may see the Audited Accounts on application at the office.

The Council deeply regret to have to record the passing of the following members :—

MR. ARTHUR HURST, on January 16th, aged 82 years. Elected a member of the Society in 1889, appointed to the Council in 1915, Honorary Curator in Ceramics since 1917, and Vice-President since 1930. He bequeathed to the Society part of his magnificent collection of Yorkshire Pottery and Silver Plate, and an annuity of £20 for the upkeep of the same.

DR. JOHN L. KIRK, on February 26th, aged 70 years, who was a member of the Society for many years, and in 1938 was

elected an Honorary Member of the Society. As an antiquary he was well known in Yorkshire.

MR. JAMES R. OGDEN, F.S.A., on April 13th, aged 73 years, an Honorary Member of the Society since 1936. He was greatly interested in Excavations in the East, particularly in those lands connected with Biblical history, and gave some fascinating lectures to our members on his travels to these countries.

MR. CHARLES E. ELMHIRST, on June 24th, aged 82 years. Elected a member of the Society in 1892, and to the Council in 1893. From 1897 to 1913 he acted as Joint Honorary Secretary with the late Dr. Tempest Anderson. Honorary Secretary 1914 to 1935, Vice-President 1917 to 1940, and a Trustee from 1901 to 1935. He was a generous supporter of the Society, and made many valuable donations to the Museum.

MR. CHARLES J. BEX, in July, aged 74 years. He was elected a member of the Society in 1924, and served on the Council from 1927 to 1930.

MR. WILLIAM WATSON, on August 26th, aged 83 years. He entered the service of the Society in 1872, being appointed Sub-Curator of the Yorkshire Museum in 1917. In February, 1922, Mr. Watson completed fifty years' service with the Society, having served under five Keepers of the Museum, and retired in April, 1933. He rendered special assistance to the Geological Department, and his ability as a skilled photographer and lanternist was well known. For many years he was responsible for the registration of the Meteorological records of the Society.

By a unanimous vote of the Council Mr. John Allan, M.A., F.S.A., Keeper of Coins and Medals in the British Museum, London, W.C.1, and Mr. Philip Corder, M.A., F.S.A., Curator of the Verulamium Museum, St. Albans, were elected Honorary Members.

FIELD NATURALISTS' SECTION.—In spite of black-out conditions a series of evening meetings was arranged for the early months of the year, and these were successful and well attended. Summer rambles and excursions were not arranged owing to war conditions. For the autumn session alternate meetings were held at the Museum and at St. Peter's School in conjunction with the School Scientific Society.

By the death of Mr. William Watson the section has lost an Honorary Member who for so many years was the official lanternist and who always took a great interest in the Members and the work of the Section. It was with great regret that the resignation of our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. George Machin, had to be accepted owing to his failing health. Mr. Machin had held the office of Hon. Treasurer for some twelve years and had managed the financial affairs of the Section most ably. As a token of regard Mr. Machin was elected an Honorary Member.

The number of active members in the Section is considerably reduced, amounting only to 68 subscribing members.

Ten Lectures and Meetings were held during the year.

DEATH AND RESIGNATION.

Members	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Lady Subscribers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Associate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								<hr/> 44 <hr/>

NEW MEMBERS.

6

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP ON 31ST DECEMBER,
1940.

Honorary Members	28
Members	241
Lady Subscribers	18
Associates	3
							<hr/> 290 <hr/>

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15 JUN 1941



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